

Subject: Latest Newsletter from Coomalie Council

Date: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 at 11:26:59 Australian Central Standard Time

From: Coomalie Community Government Council

To: XXXX

View this email in your browser







Welcome to Coomalie Community Government Council's latest edition of Stop Press newsletter.

Please feel free to share this email with family, friends, and fellow community members. If you wish to sign up for your own copy, follow this <u>link</u>, or use your smartphone camera to take a picture of the QR Code below.



Have you subscribed to the Stop Press Newsletter and not receiving it?

Please check your Junk Mail folder and mark the email as "Not Junk", should you require assistance with this, please call Council offices on 8976-0058, or call into the Community Libraries and our friendly librarians will be more than happy to help!

COUNCIL UPDATES

FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Strategic Planning Workshops

Your Councillors have undertaken several strategic planning workshops over the past few weeks in an effort to drive the required infrastructure and planning for the future of Coomalie.

The Draft Plan will be available for comment in the near future, please keep a look out for notices to ensure you review and make comment where appropriate.

Coomalie Bush Cemetery Memorial Garden

The proposed site for the Adelaide River Memorial Garden is located at the front of the Coomalie Bush Cemetery between the toilet access path and the entry gates. The location of existing shade trees, entry points and amenities makes this site ideal for the proposed memorial garden.

The concept includes:

- The existing shade trees and perimeter hedges create a frame for the garden no additional planting would be required.
- The installation of signage to direct visitors to the site would be required.
- The area provides for 6 stages with 3 rocks per stage totalling 17 memorial rocks.
- A reflection seat for quiet contemplation could also be dedicated to a significant individual.
- A winding concrete path through the garden would enable all ability access and accentuate memorials.
- The memorial garden all ability access would be connected to a proposed pathways to the Columbarium and existing graves.
- Easy access to car parking and toilets

Waste Facility Opening Times

Currently we have separate hours for commercial and residential hours. Proposal is to keep the same hours but allow commercial and residential to use the facilities at all opening times.

Considering the small amount of traffic on a daily basis and the efficiencies that the on ground staff have created at each facility, there is scope to allow all types of users to access the facility during opening hours. Staff will manage traffic as it enters the facility and determine the safety of those on ground.

The current WaRM grant will address all signage and traffic management enhancements as a priority.

The proposed hours for all users – public and commercial will remain the same hours - refer to image later in this newsletter:

Roadside Signage Bays

On the 17th of February 2023 CEO, Sharon Hillen attended a meeting to discuss the Roadside Information Bays proposed in locations either side of the town of Batchelor (Attachment) within the NTG Road Reserve on Litchfield Road and Rum Jungle Road.

Present at the meeting were the DIPL Project Managers, Destination Development Officer from Tourism NT, and Litchfield Regional Tourism Inc. The DIPL consultation tabled 3 Concepts and they were discussed at length.

The Litchfield Regional Tourism Inc. have provided extensive consultation with key stakeholders including NTG, Council and local businesses.

The Department is requesting Council endorse the preferred concept and confirm their continued agreement to coordinate the administration of the signage to be fixed to the structure providing businesses with the specifications and monitoring use.

The cluster of old signs in the road reserve would be removed once business signs are installed in

the signage bays.

Council has also included in their Drafting Instructions for By-laws a section on Outdoor Advertising which will allow Council to establish an outdoor advertising code that regulates or prohibits outdoor advertising that is on public land or can be seen from public land. A report is in this agenda to confirm the Drafting Instructions.

Need to know more?

Each month the Council meeting agenda and minutes can be accessed from the Council website and a regular link will be provided on Council's Facebook page.

Visit Council Meetings page on our website to access the very latest information.

Council's next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18th April 2023 at 3:00pm** in Chambers, 22 Cameron Road, Batchelor.



ADELAIDE RIVER

Monday Closed
Tuesday 8am - 2pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday Closed
Friday 8am - 10am
Saturday 8am - 4pm
Sunday 7am - 3pm

BATCHELOR

Monday 7am - 3pm
Tuesday Closed
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 7am - 11am
Friday 11am - 3pm
Saturday 8am - 4pm
Sunday 8am - 4pm



FROM THE WORKS AND SERVICES TEAM

Parks and Gardens

Maintenance of our parks, ovals and verges is continuing, with increased workload due to the weather.

Adelaide River Bush Cemetery is being maintained, with hedging and mowing being carried out where possible.

Multiple tree removals have taken place to ensure safety.

Cleaning of concrete pathways undertaken and continuing.

Waste Management

Waste Management strategies are being discussed in conjunction with Council's new Manager, Paul Wilson.

Key elements include recycling and better operational procedures for our waste facilities.

Animal Management

Regular patrols and responses to complaints are being conducted across both Adelaide River and Batchelor townships.

Council would like to remind the community that registration of dogs is required and enables our ranger to re-unite any lost dogs with their rightful owners.

Due to some severe storms, some dogs escaped but were returned to their owners.

Roads

Council is continuing our roadside slashing and weed spraying program. This program is extensive and designed to control weeds and ensure visibility across the road networks. It will be running throughout the wet season until May 2023.

Council officers are also inspecting all roadside drainage and performing any necessary clearing. Heavy rain has caused many roads to have water flowing over them, so please take care. Potholes are a major concern for council, and we have repaired many throughout the area.

It should be noted that the following roads are controlled by the Dept. of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics:

- Batchelor Road
- Rum Jungle Road
- Litchfield Park Road
- · Stuart Highway Service Road, Adelaide River
- Dorat Road
- Ringwood Road

Should you have any issues in regard to these roads, please report via Report a road fault - NT.GOV.AU. For urgent road faults free call 1800 246-199

To check road conditions go to Roads Reporting - Road Reports (nt.gov.au)

FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Council Run After School Sports

After School Sports is off and running with substantial numbers being recorded at both schools in the shire.

Should you wish your child to attend, you must complete a Council After School Sports Permission Form, these can be downloaded from here, or they are available at your school office.

Please note change of days for Batchelor, this was required to fit other activities within Coomalie Shire.

- Adelaide River Monday afternoons 2:45pm 3:45pm.
- Batchelor Area School Tuesday afternoons 2:45pm 3:45pm.

Seniors Mystery Bus Tours

The next Seniors Mystery Bus Tour will be held on Thursday 20th April, please see flyer later in this

newsletter for details!

The last tour had 15 people attend with the group visiting the Royal Botanic Gardens in Darwin, with lunch at Eva's Cafe within the garden grounds!

Be sure to book for the next tour direct with Council to ensure you name is not missed!

Youth Week 2023

Council has just released its Youth Week activity for 2023, please see the image below for full details!

Given the nature of the activity, we have had to restrict access to the event for youth aged 12+, this is also due to the lack of equipment held by Darwin Karting to accommodate smaller children!

ANZAC Day Dawn Service

Coomalie's annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service is happening at the Adelaide River War Cemetery.

The commemorative event will take place on Tuesday 25th April from 5:30am sharp, concluding at approx. 6:30am and followed by a Traditional Gunfire Breakfast at the Adelaide River Show Society from 7:00am.

Please note there will be traffic restrictions in place on Memorial Terrace from 4:00am in the morning until 7:30am

Bombing of Darwin Commemoration

On Monday 20th February Coomalie Council held its commemorative service for those that lost their lives on that fateful day on 19th February 1942.

Over 100 people attended the service that was held in the Civilian Section of the Adelaide River War Cemetery for the first time. The guests heard from local historian, Dr Jan Hills, speak about the unsung heroes from the conflict in Darwin, as well as from The Honourable Matt Thistlethwaite, Assistant Minister for Defence and Veterans' Affairs, speak on events during the bombing raids. Thanks also to the Batchelor Area School students for reading The Ode of Remembrance and laying a wreath, and lastly to the Cataflaque Party from NORFORCE Darwin and Chaplain Karen Haynes, RAAF Base Darwin.

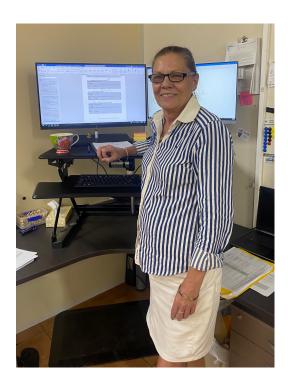
Please see further in this newsletter for some photos from the day.

International Women's Day

What a lovely Morning Tea gathering of 30 people at the Litchfield Outback Resort, where the attendees were enthralled by the stories of our 2 guest speakers, Dr Jan Hills, local historian and veterinarian and Mrs Lesley Wolfe, Nursing pioneer in the Territory.

Special thanks to our guest speakers, attendees and the Litchfield Outback Resort for providing the lovely morning tea!

Again, please see further in the issue for some photos from the day.



Council would like to welcome the following staff to Coomalie.

Stacey Shooter

Thankyou for welcoming me back to the Council!

I will be working with the Corporate Services Unit. As the Executive Services Coordinator I will be coordinating and contributing to Council's governance, finance and administration obligations. I'm looking forward to working with all again at the Council Office.

Paul Wilson

BOMBING OF DARWIN COMMEMORATION









INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY









COUNCIL EVENTS



Join us to commemorate the service men & women who lost their lives or returned injured during the Gallipoli campaign on 25th April 1915 and subsequent campaigns during war time.

When: Tuesday 25th April 2023
Time: 5:30am sharp
Where: Adelaide River War Cemetery,
Memorial Terrace, Adelaide River

Please note there will be traffic management in place on Memorial Terrace from 4:00am until 7:00pm. This will affect the flow of traffic into and out of the War Graves







YOUTH WEEK 2023



Activity: Darwin Go-Karts
Date: Wednesday 12th April
Pick up Adelaide River: 8:30am
Pick up: Batchelor: 9:00am
Bookings are essential!

Due to the nature of the activity, age restrictions are applicable – minimum age of 12 years!





COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

Council's libraries have reopened after the Christmas period with some strong attendance numbers evident.

Council received a donation of Lego blocks for our libraries, these have been distributed and available for use during library open hours!

Should libraries be closed on short notice, or late opening for any reason Council will publish this information to its Facebook page.

We have a wide and varied range of books available at both Community Libraries, feel free to come in and browse, it doesn't cost to join our Community Libraries. This enables you to have free access to iPads, Computers and Wi-Fi at the libraries.

Watch out for the Music & Jam Session at Batchelor Community Library on a Sunday afternoon, bring along your guitar or ukulele, or just your singing voice to have some fun in the afternoons!

Community Library Opening Hours

Adelaide River

Thursdays 3:30pm to 6:30pm Fridays 3:30pm to 6:30pm Saturdays 9:00am to 2:00pm

Batchelor

Fridays 3:00pm to 5:30pm Sundays 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Community members and visitors are all welcome at the library during the times above.

SENIORS MYSTERY BUS TOUR









Morning Tea

Where: Rum Jungle Bowls Club

When: *Thursday* 27th April 2023 9:30am *Please note change of day to a Thursday!*

Gold coin donation please!

Contact: Jan Jewell on 0408 762 257 for further details

Coomalie Community Shed

Where: Cutler Place, Batchelor

When: Every Tuesday 8:30am - 2:00pm Contact: James on 0488 195 410

Agemoves

Where: Old Rum Jungle Tavern

When: Every Tuesday 10:00am - 11:30am

Contact: Daryl Butler 0428 983 098 or Prue King 0427 332 803

Combined session for people of Coomalie.

Monthly Bus Trip

Where: Coolalinga and Gateway Shopping Centres

Pick up Batchelor and Adelaide River Stores

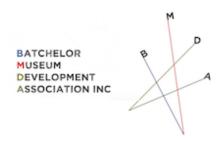
When: Monday 24th April 2023

Booking essential – Numbers limited due to small bus

Contact: Jan Jewell on 0408 762 257

BATCHELOR MARKETS





The Batchelor Museum volunteers will undertake preparation for the main visitor season with a working bee on Thursday March 30 at 9am. The Museum is usually kept tidy and hopefully this should not be an arduous task. We will have a meeting at 12 to discuss the year ahead.

I have bravely asked Lyn to put Saturday April 1 as our opening day as that is what is needed for our visitor expectations.

So far there has not been touring people--grey nomads- who have responded to our advert for assistance to open the Museum, although Lucinda placed the adverts some time ago.

It would be great to have more local people involved to greet visitors so if there is a possibility please talk with Lucinda, Gaye or Sue. It is a great way to meet people and it is easy to absorb the information to introduce visitors. Time given is flexible and to suit.

Call by on Thursday 30th if you have queries.

Last week the WW2 sign was placed on the relevant building, which is close to the Monument shifted to the grounds late last year. Hopefully the sign will create additional interest for people stopping to read the plaques on the rock Monument.

The original plaque was to commemorate the arrival by air,of General Mac Arthur to Australia, with his wife and son, from Guam during WW2. That is why the original site for the rock was opposite the Batchelor Airfield.

Traffic increases and changes meant that placement was not suitable and hopefully many more people will now see the rock and walk across the bridge to view it.

The Museum remains a great attraction in Batchelor as so many people look and read about the very significant history of this small town. That interest is enhanced when there is a connection with family or friends who were here in those periods.

Already there has been enquiries for the Batchelor Walk map. Whilst I wrote that text the map was printed through Tourism- and was recently unavailable. Because of requests from visitors we photocopy the map for the convenience of people wanting to follow up on that small historic walk. This season we will run off more copies to meet demand.

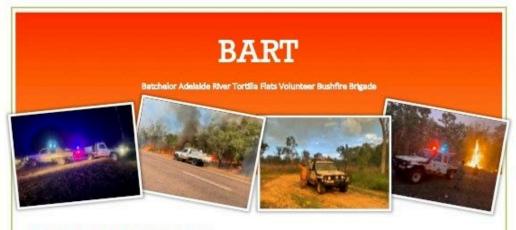
At the Adelaide River service held at the Cemetery on February 20 reference was made to both Dolly Garinyi and also to Matron Edith McQuade White in relation to their respective contributions during WW2. You can read about these people in the WW2 exhibit.

Jan Hills



The latest newsletter from the Rum Jungle Mine Project can be downloaded from Council's website here.

BART INFORMATION



Hello Coomalie Community

A lot of you are probably familiar with the BART Volunteer Bushfire Brigade and we appreciate your support. But maybe you're new to the area or not sure who BART is...

BART, it's a funny name, right? BART stands for Batchelor, Adelaide River, Tortilla flats. BART brigade covers a large rural land area in the Vernon/Arafura region.

The BART brigade is made up entirely of volunteers. It is run by a committee of 9 of those volunteers, who are elected annually at the AGM.

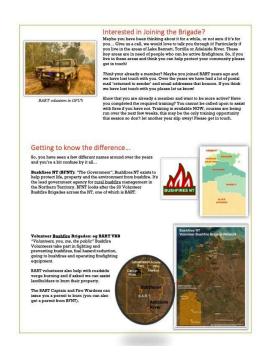


It is the current committees understanding that BART hasn't really had a formal logo for a long time, if ever. We have been told that at one stage Bart Simpson made a brief appearance as a logo as did a Mad Max / monster truck looking Toyota GFU... However, to be more in line with our brigade's primary objective (to provide a fire prevention and firefighting service) we have opted of something a bit less mad max and a bit more environmental.



A BART vehicle, these are called GFU's (grass fire units)









The Gardening Group has cancelled the meeting on 19th March in lieu of meeting on Thursday 23rd March at 12 noon at De Lago restaurant at Lake Bennett to celebrate the birthday of one of our oldest members, Miss Lyla Wills OAM.

All are welcome to join us for this occasion.

Next Gardening Group meeting will be at Denmar Downs on Sunday April 16th 2023 at 12 noon.

All welcome.

If anyone is requiring a lift from and to Batchelor out to Denmar Downs, please ring Mary on 0417 816 422.

Drinks and eats will be available.

Please feel free to contact Mary on 89 760 379 if you have any questions about these sites.

BATCHELOR OP SHOP & FOOD FOR LIFE



The Batchelor op-shop is open each second Friday from 10 am to 12 noon.

At the same time and date each second Friday "Food For Life" operates. The van is driven down from Darwin with goods on board. EFTpos is available for Food for Life transactions.

The op shop has always operated on a cash basis but this year should be able to offer EFTpos also.

The next date for combined Batchelor Op-shop and Food For Life operates on will be Friday 31st March, then 14th and 28th April 2023 from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Adelaide River Police Station
Northern Territory Police

Batchelor Police Station Northern Territory Police

C/- Post Office, Adelaide River 0845 (08) 8976-7042 PO Box 21, Batchelor NT 0845 (08) 8976-0015

Remote Sergeant - Colin Queadley

Remote Sergeant - Sean Byrnes

We trust that the dry season left you well and looking forward to some rain...

CYCLONE SEASON

We are now officially in our cyclone season and weather predictions to date have us expecting some significant weather this year. Now is the time to begin making preparations for the wet season and all of the weather patterns which it will bring us. Giving time to cyclone clean up would be time well spent while the remaining dry weather permits. We urge everyone to take their own personal safety seriously and make preparations, your local police are here to help during weather events but our role is made much easier if everyone is prepared in some way. Keep an ear or eye on the weather forecasts and weather warnings and please heed the advice provided.

Good information and guidance is available on the NT Government website SecureNT.

Visit www.securent.nt.gov.au/prepare-for-an-emergency for more information and advice.

POLICE

Weather warnings are available on the various Social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. You can register to receive these alerts automatically but if you need help then feel free to talk to us. Visit https://securent.nt.gov.au/alerts for more information.

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY

Our interstate visitors and holiday makers have made their way back to their home states leaving us to look forward to the incredible weather which we see in the Top End. Giving time to our vehicles and their safety for wet weather driving will also be wise. As our roads have less traffic flow, please remain vigilant around safe driving and ensure that you're always refreshed, prepared and sober before making any journeys. As the wet season builds and develops, we urge all motorists to take extra care when traveling about our roads. The fresh grass is bringing animals to the roadside thus increasing the chances of collisions with vehicles. Please be cognisant of all animals when travelling. If you discover any loose stock, then please advise your local police or 131444 if the matter is presenting an immediate danger to other motorists.

PROPERTY AND SECURITY - LOCK IT OR LOOSE IT

Media coverage continues to bring your attention to the property offending in Darwin and surrounds. Despite our distance from these locations, we are not immune to persons motivated by dishonesty. Over the last few months, we have experienced instances of 'out of town' offenders visiting our districts and committing offences. We continue to urge all residents to take a close personal interest in the security of their property. If we can all play our part, we will have a safer community. Reporting all incidents, no matter how minor will also help your local Police gain a better understanding of where focus is needed. Should you observe suspicious persons or vehicles, please contact 131444 immediately. The information you provide can assist Police in investigating and solving offences which you may not be aware of. It is timely to remind all residents that your local Police appreciate personal contact either in person or on the station phone but that we cannot

staff the Police Station 24 hours a day. It is preferable that all reports be made through 131444 or 000 in an emergency so that your local Police can be despatched to attend even if we are not on duty.

A simple step such as removing keys from motor vehicles, locking doors and even older style steering locks will make offenders look elsewhere for their next prize.

We wish you all a safe wet season and look forward to saying hello while we are out an about in the community.

Adelaide River Police Sgt QUEDLEY + Constable ALCORN

Batchelor Police
Sgt BYRNES + Constable HARRIS-JACOBS





WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Adelaide River Markets	Sgt Glen Huitson Park, Adelaide River	Commencing Easter Saturday, Sunday & Monday New & Casual Stallholders Welcome Contact Chris Johnstone 8976-0547
Agemoves	Old Rum Jungle Tavern	Tuesdays 10:00am - 11:30am Call Daryl Butler 0428 983 098 or Prue King 0427 332 803
Adelaide River Playgroup	Preschool Room Adelaide River Primary School	Every Monday & Tuesday (during school terms) 8:30am – 10:30am
		2nd Sunday of the month - Dry Season

Batchelor Markets	Batchelor Oval	only
Batchelor Playgroup	Preschool Grounds Batchelor Area School	Every second Friday (during school terms) 8:30am - 11:30am
Council Run After School Sports	Adelaide River School	Mondays 2:45pm - 3:45pm (during school terms)
Council Run After School Sports	Batchelor Area School	Tuesdays 2:45pm - 3:45pm (during school terms)
Food for Life	St Francis Church	Every 2 nd Friday commencing 28 th January 2022
Grey Panthers Dance Classes	Litchfield Motel	Wednesdays 10.30am Call Darryl on 0428 983 098
Gardening Group monthly meeting	Contact Mary Ashley for this month's location 8976-0379	Third Sunday of month 11:00am At Denmar Downs
Rum Jungle Bowls Club	Pinaroo Cres, Batchelor Contact Mark Shirley 0447 848 234	Every Thursday during Dry Season
St Francis Op Shop	Mardango Cres, Batchelor	Every 2 nd Friday commencing 28 th January 2022

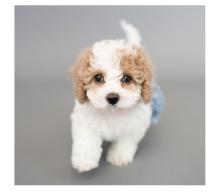
COUNCIL INFORMATION

Dogs in Coomalie Shire



All dogs in Coomalie
Shire over 3 months of
age must be registered.
You can register your
dog at Council Offices
or via Email

Dogs **must** be on a leash at all times in any public area, otherwise they can be impounded.



Fees apply if your dog has been impounded.

Dog Registration Charges

Registration Period – 1st September to 31st August Registered between Sep – Aug \$37.00 Registered between Mar – Aug \$27.00 Pensioner / Concession \$18.50



Attention: Road Weight Restrictions



Council's Feedback Process

If you choose to raise concerns (or compliments) to Council you are requested to write to the Chief Executive Officer outlining the details. There are two (2) forms on the Coomalie Council website; one is for <u>complaints about dogs</u> and the other is for <u>general complaints</u>. You can also fill out one of the two forms on Council's website.

Council Meetings

Council Meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of each month and are open to the public, but are closed for any confidential sessions.

Next Meeting: 3:00pm Tuesday 18th April 2023

Stop Press

Should you know of someone that still wishes to receive a paper-based version of the Stop Press, please email <u>Stop Press</u> to be added to the printed mailing list.

Just a reminder, if you would like an article published, please email it to <u>Stop Press</u> by the 20th of each month. Each month we start with a clean canvas without articles being rolled over.

Please ensure you have read Council's policy <u>1.1 Community Communication</u> before submitting an article.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS

To see the previous editions of Stop Press please follow this link to Councils website.

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Our mailing address is:

22 Cameron Road, Batchelor NT 0845 or mail@coomalie.nt.gov.au

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